

1969 NORTHERN LIGHTS



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The Northern Lights

Published By

The Annual Staff

Valier High School

Valier, Montana

Editors

Isola Dean  
Ramona Arnst

Business Managers

Diana Widhalm  
Joann Boucher

Sponsor

Mrs. Charles VanGorden



“Through These Doors  
We Pass

Some To Research  
Some To Learn  
Some To Gaze  
Some To Talk  
Some To Laugh  
All To Profit”

A school building is constructed of steel and cement, strong and permanent, but it is designed to accommodate an ever-changing flow of students. Year after year buses empty their loads each morning, and people stream in waves into the hallways and classrooms. To the rhythm of bells, tides of people wash in and out of the rooms and corridors and finally back to the buses, leaving the building empty. Carl Sandburg in his poem "Skyscraper" says "It is the men and women, boys and girls so poured in and out all day that give the building a soul of dreams and thoughts and memories." As each individual forms a part of the mass, so each personality contributes to the whole of Valier High's soul--that abstract thing we call school spirit. We, the Class of 1969, have left this student body. With us we have taken our individual dreams and thoughts and memories, many of which were molded in these halls and rooms.

# Dedication

We, the Class of 1969, believe a dedication should have a deserving meaning. We dedicate our Annual to you because of the many young adults you have helped to mold:

For your true devotion in helping our class,

For the endless efforts and time you have spent with each of us,

For trying to understand our teenage philosophy,

For the opinions you expressed, which helped us make decisions,

For your respect of those decisions we have made,

And most of all for your sincerity which has helped to influence us in our young lives.

These are only a few reasons for our decision, but they are significant ones. This is why We, the Class of 1969, dedicate our Northern Lights to you, Mom and Dad.

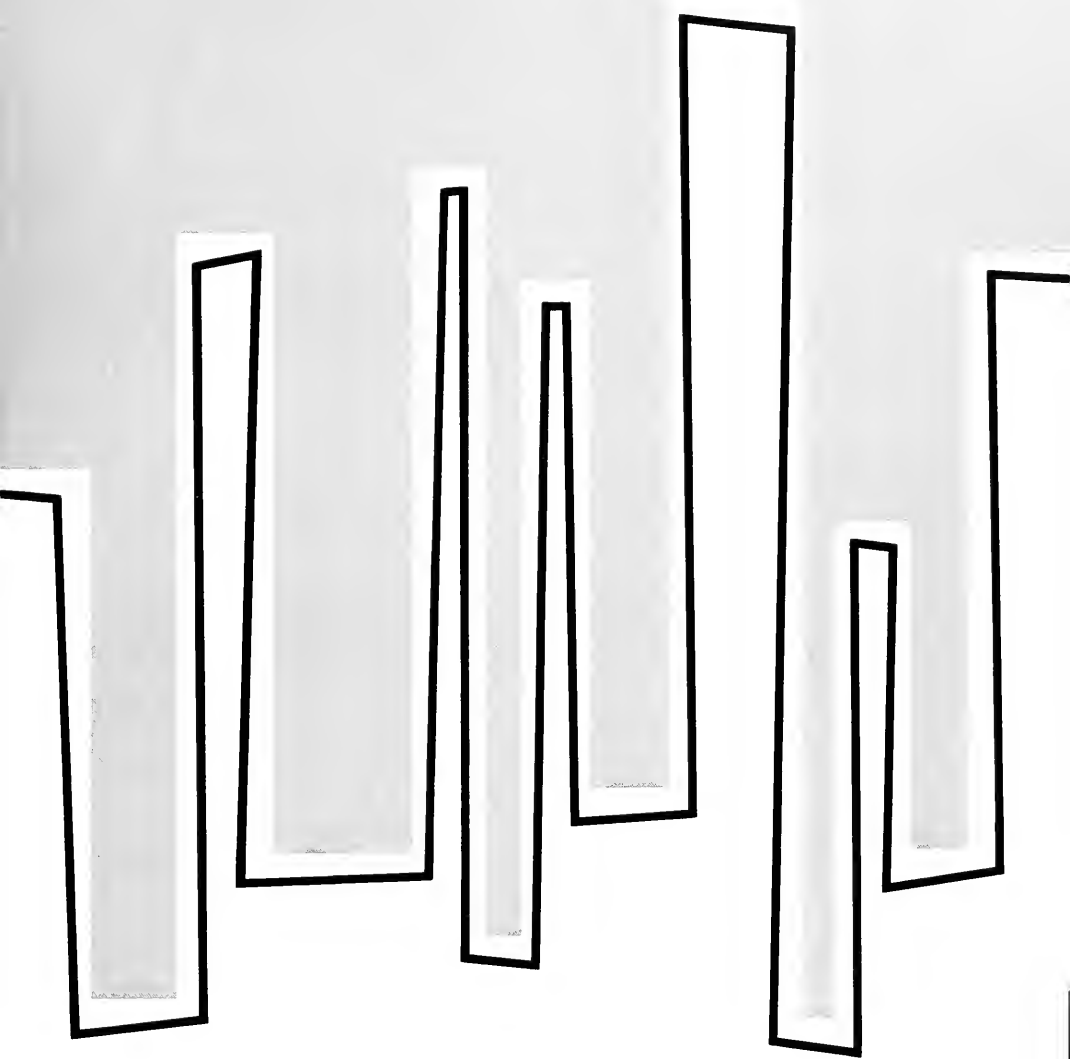
# Forward

The "Northern Lights" staff of 1969 presents the memories of one of the truly outstanding years in the history of Valier High School.

Exemplifying this are the classes, assemblies, homecoming, games, tests, parties, teachers, work, fun, and fellowship. This is what we have tried to put into this one small volume. We have supplied the pictures and words, you supply the memories. No matter what the future holds; peace, wars, hopes, shortcomings, your memories are forever yours.

But, it was not only the "new" that made this year great, but also the "old" - - the traditions and spirit deeply embedded in the heritage of Valier High School and handed down each year.





SENIORS

## Motto

“We Know What We Are, But Know Not What We May Be.”

Colors  
Pink And White  
Flower  
Pink Rose

Sponsors  
Mr. And Mrs. Charles Van Gorden



Delphia Adams



Donna Allen



Ramona Arist



Ina Ann Beaudry



Vicki Bonnet



Joann Boucher



Bonnie Buckingham



Roger Christiaens



Michael Culleton



Janice Davis



Isela Dean



Debra Durnell



Donald Egan



Susan Gauthier



Jeri Lynn Goff



Douglas Habets



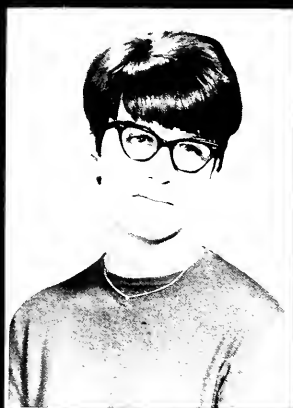
Gerald Johnson



Colleen McComb



Douglas Miller



Helen Monroe



Kenneth Offerdahl



Beatrice Orr



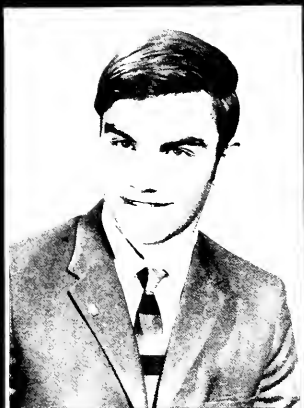
Rodger Parmelee



Kenneth Pepion



Tom Peterson



Chuck Redd



Dennis Simmons



Allen Smith



Linda Smith



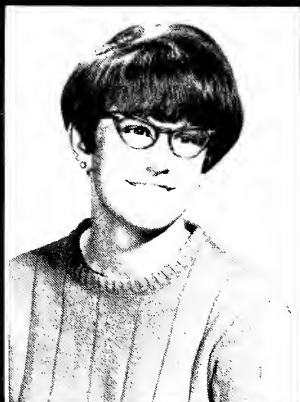
Harold Struss



Eula Tyler



Karen Wenzel



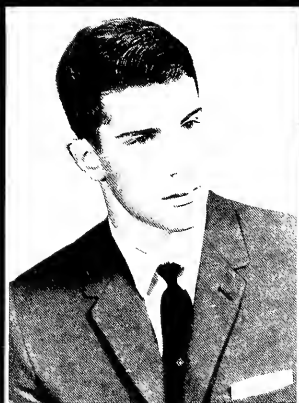
Barbara Widhalm



Diana Widhalm

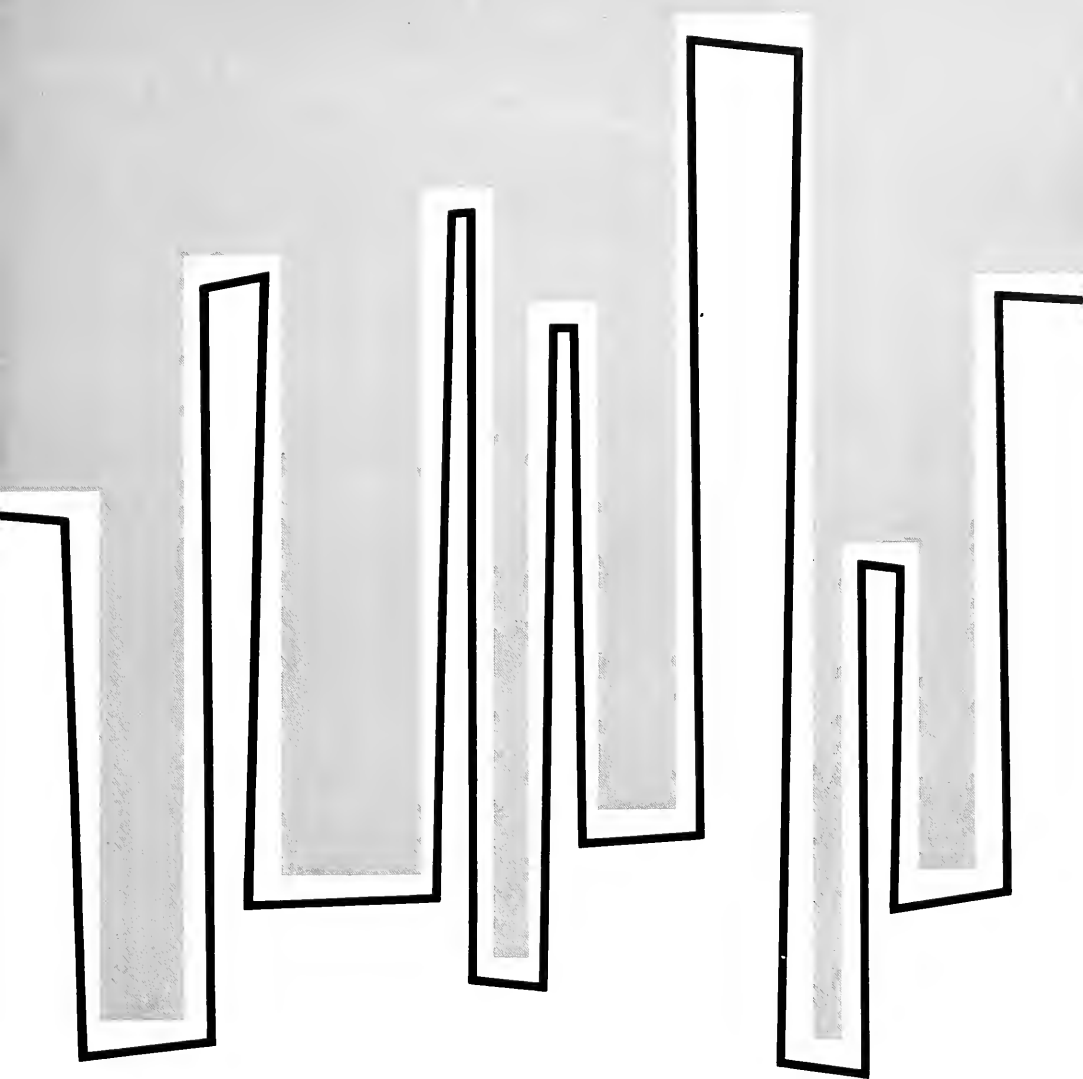


Donald Widhalm

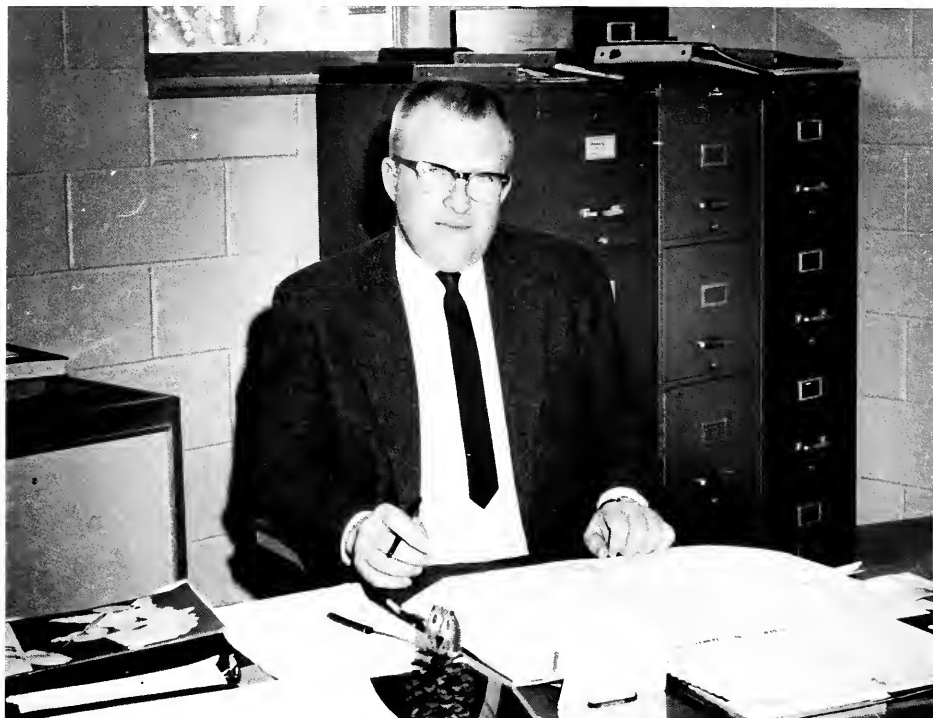


Robert Widhalm





ADMINISTRATION & FACULTY



Graduating Seniors,

Congratulations, your years at Valier High School are finished. I trust that you have gotten out of your high school education exactly what you put forth.

The rough road lies ahead in life. As you become more adult, the responsibilities and complexities of life become greater and greater. I hope you can bear these with the attitude of a competent and realistic individual.

Do what life demands of you, what you demand of it, and do it well.

Congratulations to the class of 1969.

*Robert S. Sindelar*

Robert S. Sindelar, Superintendent



Mr. Dean Swank, Chairman; Mr. Jim Powers, and Mr. Robert Arnst, Vice-Chairman.



Mr. Harry Swanson and Mr. Cliff Stoltz.

## Citizens Dedicated Their Service

The School Board is composed of seven trustees who are elected for three-year terms. In the interest of education they donated their time, for which they received little recognition, yet much criticism. Establishing the governing policy and preparing the budget of Valier's school system were only a few of their responsibilities.

On Awards Night, Harry Swanson and Cliff Stoltz were presented plaques in recognition of their years of service. Mr. Swanson, who served as chairman three years, had been a trustee for nine years. Mr. Stoltz had served for five years.



Mrs. Jim Curry was the only woman trustee.



Mr. Paul Widhalm, Mr. Albert Jannusch, and Mr. Don Haynes.



The board at work.



Mrs. Richard Geiger  
Clerk



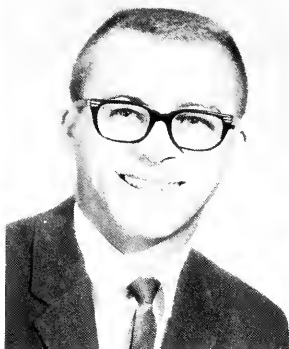
Mrs. Richard DeBoo  
Secretary



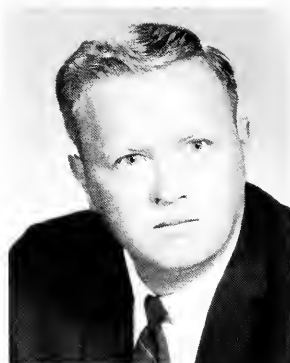
Mr. Carl Orr  
Custodian



Mrs. Robert Adams  
English, French



Mr. Norman Ballantyne  
English



Mr. Jack Dunlap  
Industrial Arts  
Physical Education



Mrs. James Garland  
English

## Faculty —

The ultimate aim of education is to present a knowledgeable person to society. The teachers of Valier High School used many different methods in instructing their students. Rather than strictly lecture classes, the teachers provided field trips, group discussions, debates, laboratory work, and film.



Mr. Larry Hodgson  
Science, Mathematics  
Driver's Education



Mr. Paul Kneuppel  
Social Science



Mrs. Ora Lohse  
Library



Miss Robin McGowan  
Home Economics



Mrs. Rick Prevost  
English, French



Mr. Joe Poelma  
Music

## Leaders Of Learning

The teachers did much more than teach scholastic subjects. They had a personal interest in the students and sought to further their growth in many fields. Each instructor, the sponsor of at least one organization, spent many hours guiding the students. The results of their labor can never be fully realized.



Mr. Robert Reiter  
Social Studies  
Physical Education



Mr. Richard Sirokman  
Science, Mathematics



Mr. Charles VanGorden  
Science, Mathematics  
Principal



Mrs. Charles VanGorden  
Typing, Bookkeeping



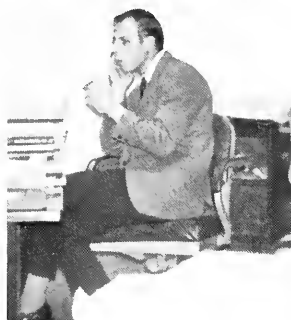
Did someone call?



Mr. Dunlap with his favorites



Who said that?



Well you see, it's like this.



I wish that kid would write better.



Student or teacher?



What did I do with those papers now?



Why does everything happen to me?



No, it's this way.



Let's hear your story.



UNDERCLASSMEN



Terry Aakre  
Bill Adamson  
Tom Allen  
Bill Barron

Randy Boumans  
Doug Bowman  
Jeff Briden

Ross Buckingham  
Dennis Chatlain  
Tom Christiaens

## Juniors



Pam Crawford  
Susan Crawford  
Karen Davis  
Debra Dean

Bonnie Dodge  
Vicki Dolan  
Lynn Gossard  
Dick Habets



Mark Hammer  
 Tony Harwood  
 Alice Hayne  
 Leanne Jannusch



John Majerus  
 Penny Nelson  
 Candy Parmelee



Alice Peterson  
 Karl Rappold  
 Debbie Rideout



## Class Of 1970



Jewel Stokes  
 Loretta Stokes  
 Cindy Swanson  
 Mary Tyler



Jean Wheeler  
 Eve Widhalm  
 Ray Widhalm  
 Twilla Wilson



Robin Adams  
Marie Adamson  
Sheila Allen  
Gary Arnst



Roger Culleton  
John DenBoer  
Jane Durnell  
Jody Field



Randy Geiger  
Rick Geiger  
Steve Goff

## Sophomores



Valerie Hale  
Trudy Hall  
Gary Hammer  
Greg Harwood

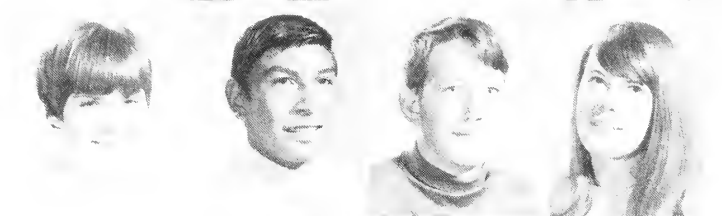


Clayton Hirst  
Melodie Johnson  
Roberta Keeler  
Bob Kovatch

Jan Neyenhuis  
Desi Pepion  
Doug Powers  
Karen Rappold



Janice Rogers  
Wayne Smith  
Joe Stark  
Helen Stephen

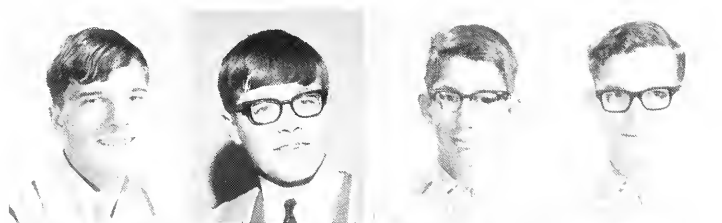


Susan Struss  
Terry VandenBos  
Dick Wenzel



## Class Of 1971

Steve Wenzel  
Randy Whitcomb  
Gary Widhalm  
Jerry Widhalm



Kathy Widhalm  
Mike Widhalm  
Debbie Wright  
Larry Wunderlich





Rex Barrett  
Rhonda Barron  
Guy Bradley

Alethea Bruner  
Gary Casey  
Diane DeVinney

Roxanna DenBoer  
Dan Dodge  
Debra Dolan

## Freshmen



Ellen Gauthier  
Anita Geiger  
Denise Gossard  
Jane Hammer

Jean Hayes  
Nancy Hayne  
Greg Hirst  
Syd Kincaid

Dave Kovatch  
Kenny Kovatch  
Donna Myhre  
Jayme Nelson



Ted Orr  
Connie Pepion  
Donita Powers



Linda Reishus  
Susan Russell  
Ronnie Simmons



## Class Of 1972



Marla Slezak  
Rhonda Stokes  
Rick VandeKop  
Lennie VandenBos



Connie Wenzel  
Jack Whitcomb  
Tim Widhalm  
Joan Yeager

# Students Were Constantly Active



"What a Devil!"



"Blow in his ear, and he'll follow you anywhere!"



Hard at it.



Raquel who?



"I'm trying to study."



The perfect class?



"Get ready, here we go."



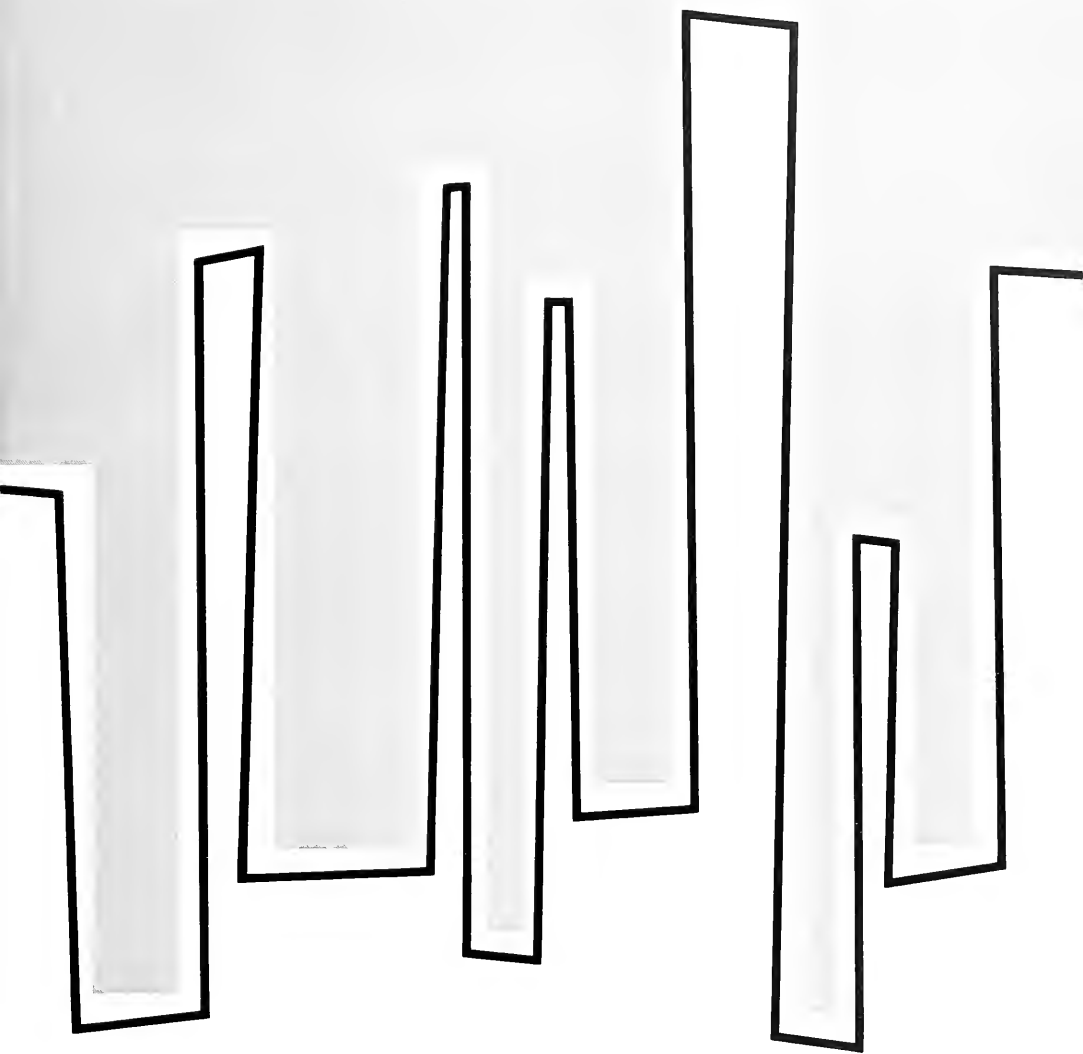
What pretty legs you have, Jack.



Oh, that's cute.



Working?



SPORTS



FRONT ROW: Rick Geiger, Mark Hammer, Ronnie Simmons, Len VandenBos, Dave Kovatch, Jack Whitcomb, Kenny Kovatch, Rex Barret, and Don Egan. SECOND ROW: Joe Stark, Dennis Simmons, Roger Christiaens, John Majerus, Jody Field, Greg Harwood, and Gary Arnst. THIRD ROW: Tom Christiaens, Jeff Briden, Mike Culleton, Roger Culleton, Bob Kovatch, Randy Geiger, and Jerry Johnson.

## Football Team Gained Victory At Homecoming

The success the Panthers had this year, can be attributed to the Freshman and Sophomore boys who had the courage to stay out for football. These players took the abuse and hard knocks dealt out by the larger and more experienced members of the team. A great deal of credit goes to these fellows. However, one must not underestimate the stamina of the upper classmen, which combined with the desire of the underclassmen, brought them their first victory in two seasons.



Valier 19--Chester 18

Dennis Simmons, Co-Captain  
 Roger Christiaens, Co-Captain  
 Tom Christiaens,  
 All-Conference End  
 Mr. Knueppel, Assistant Coach  
 Mr. Dunlap, Assistant Coach  
 Mr. VanGorden, Head Coach





# These Were The Fighting Seniors



Kenny Offerdahl



Roger Christiaens



Mike Culleton



Dennis Simmons

## Valier's Record

|        |    |           |    |
|--------|----|-----------|----|
| Valier | 0  | Conrad    | 26 |
| Valier | 7  | Big Sandy | 31 |
| Valier | 13 | Fairfield | 42 |
| Valier | 0  | Choteau   | 22 |
| Valier | 12 | Browning  | 39 |
| Valier | 0  | Sunburst  | 39 |
| Valier | 19 | Chester   | 18 |
| Valier | 12 | Harlem    | 28 |



Jerry Johnson



Don Egan



Roger Parmelee

# Football Team Showed Desire



Where is the ball?



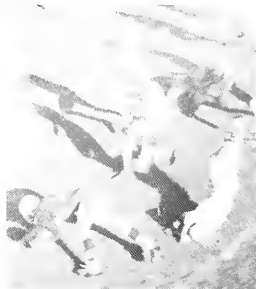
Hurry, the play is over.



Dog pile time!



Whose side you on boy?



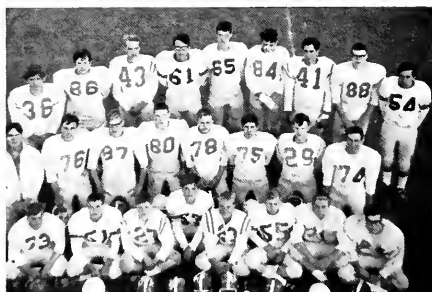
Real co-ordination.



Take your time.



It's not dancing class.



You don't have to frown; I know it's cold.



Catch him, Lenny.



Get out of my way.



Alright, break it up.

# A Team To Be Proud Of

"I am delighted to be able to write a brief message in the 1969 annual, for, I feel this was a very special group of young men. When thinking of this team, I am reminded of Robert E. Lee's statement, regarding his soldiers following the Civil War, 'More was required of them than they were able to perform.'"

"This is not the end of this team, but rather it is the beginning of a return to the dedicated student athlete that the community, the school, and each man associated with the team can be proud of. With these young men, we look to the future."

Paul F. Kneuppel



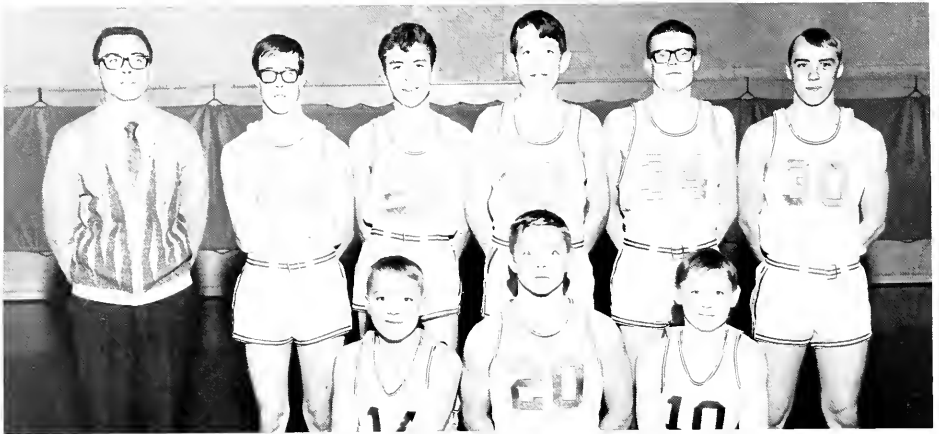
Tom Christiaens, captain and all-conference player.



STANDING: Ross Buckingham, Manager; Rick Geiger, Dennis Chatlain, Tony Harwood, Roger Culleton, Tom Christiaens, Mike Culleton, Steve Goff, and Mr. Kneuppel, Coach. KNEELING: John Majerus, and Jerry Johnson.

## Statistics

|        |    |           |    |        |    |           |    |
|--------|----|-----------|----|--------|----|-----------|----|
| Valier | 44 | Chester   | 62 | Valier | 29 | Sunburst  | 67 |
| Valier | 45 | Big Sandy | 67 | Valier | 25 | Conrad    | 66 |
| Valier | 48 | Big Sandy | 51 | Valier | 35 | Shelby    | 70 |
| Valier | 53 | Conrad    | 62 | Valier | 31 | Fairfield | 60 |
| Valier | 51 | Browning  | 52 | Valier | 24 | Cut Bank  | 56 |
| Valier | 49 | Joplin    | 32 | Valier | 33 | Choteau   | 77 |
| Valier | 35 | Harlem    | 54 | Valier | 43 | Browning  | 80 |
| Valier | 28 | Joplin    | 34 | Valier | 40 | Shelby    | 51 |
| Valier | 50 | Fairfield | 82 | Valier | 54 | Sunburst  | 58 |
| Valier | 46 | Cut Bank  | 71 | Valier | 38 | Chester   | 62 |
| Valier | 30 | Choteau   | 61 | Valier | 45 | Fairfield | 63 |
|        |    |           |    | Valier | 31 | Sunburst  | 65 |

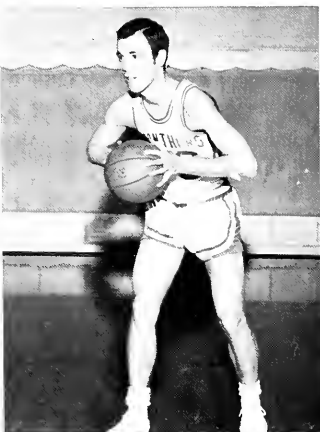


KNEELING: Dave Kovatch, Lennie VandenBos, Kenny Kovatch. STANDING: Mr. Ballantyne, Coach; Jody Fields, Gary Casey, Joe Stark, Randy Geiger, and Bob Kovatch.

## Junior Varsity Effort Showed Good Spirit

"The 1968-69 J. V. basketball season started out with a number of victories. However, due to unfortunate circumstances, we lost a number of good players to the varsity. This loss hampered our performance on the win-loss record somewhat, but it brought forth a unit in which every member had to put forth more than just good effort. These particular individuals had the spirit and attitude that it takes to be a good athlete, and a more fully developed individual."

Mr. Norman Ballantyne  
B-Squad Coach



Our two Senior varsity members who displayed their desire and interest this past year were Jerry Johnson and Mike Culleton.





Get through that net ball!



Tip that ball Steve.



Just a little too tall.



Our tournament team.



Where did they go?



Perfect lay-up.



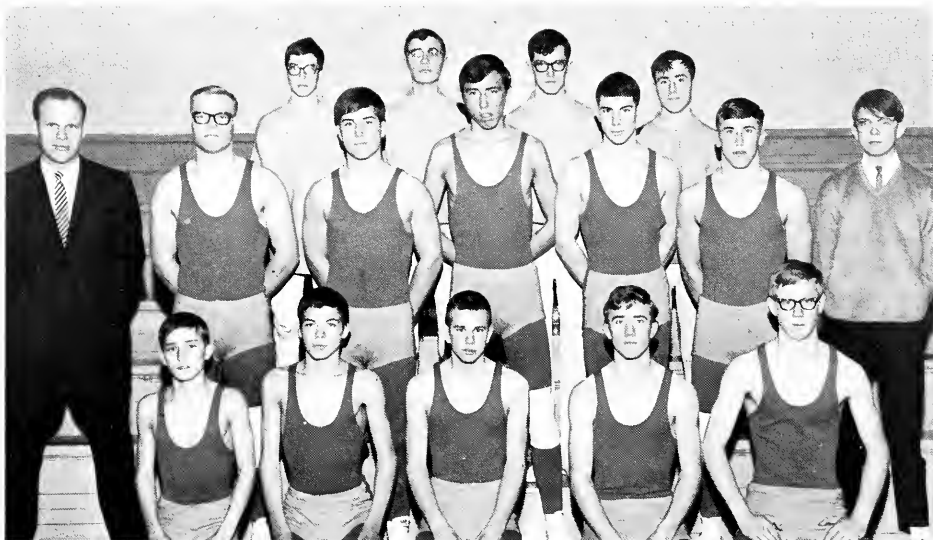
That must be a foul.



Bouncing Tony.



Here Mike, catch.



KNEELING: Mike Widhalm, Jack Whitcomb, Doug Habets, Don Widhalm, Gary Arnst. 2nd ROW: Mr. Hodgson, Coach; Terry VandenBos, Jeff Briden, Allen Smith, Robert Widhalm, Ray Widhalm, and Mark Hammer. 3rd ROW: Tim Widhalm, Larry Wunderlich, Jerry Widhalm, and Greg Harwood. NOT PICTURED: Kenny Offerdahl and Dick Habets.

## Valier Wrestlers Tied For Third Place

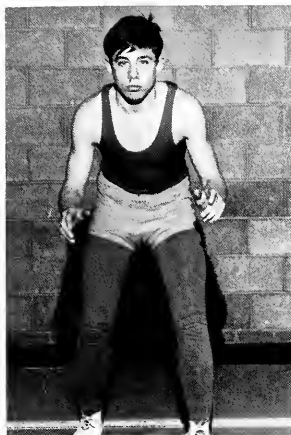
### Statistics

|        |    |               |    |
|--------|----|---------------|----|
| Valier | 23 | Sunburst      | 25 |
| Valier | 20 | Cut Bank      | 20 |
| Valier | 28 | Big Sandy     | 31 |
| Valier | 40 | Shelby        | 8  |
| Valier | 48 | Chester       | 8  |
| Valier | 26 | CM Russell JV | 20 |
| Valier | 41 | Chester       | 10 |
| Valier | 30 | GF Public JV  | 16 |
| Valier | 23 | CM Russell JV | 21 |
| Valier | 16 | Cut Bank      | 32 |
| Valier | 19 | Sunburst      | 29 |
| Valier | 34 | Shelby        | 15 |

Wrestling is a new but swiftly growing sport in Valier High School, which gains more and more attention each year. Although the 1968-1969 season was only wrestling's fourth year in Valier, the enthusiasm and drive of the athletes made it a very successful one.

Co-captains, Don Widhalm and Ken Offerdahl, pose with the trophy their team won at the Sunburst Invitational. Valier captured first with 79 points, while Sunburst scored 46, and Shelby 30 points.

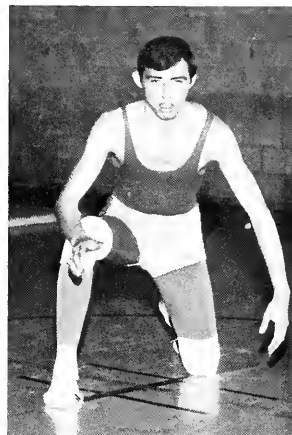




Ken Offerdahl, a Senior, decided his opponent in the finals at the district tournament to capture first place in the 120# bracket. He placed fourth at State.



Another Senior, Don Widhalm also wrestled in the finals, winning second place in his 112# bracket. He did very well at the State Tournament, placing third.

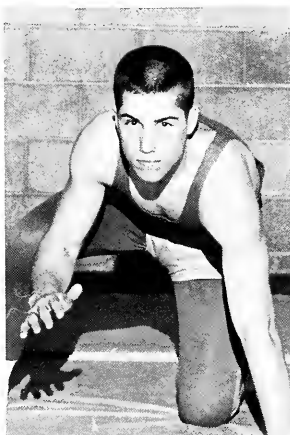


This was the last year of wrestling for Senior Smoky Smith, who added to Valier's showing at the district tournament by placing third, and competing at State in Livingston.

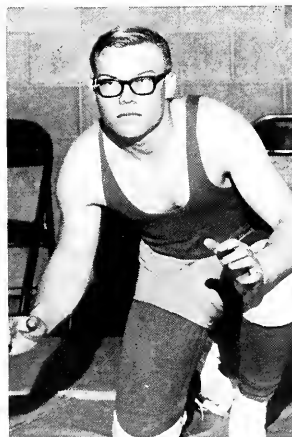
## At Divisional And State Tournaments

Sporting nine wins, one tie, and only four losses during conference play, the team was particularly proud of three victories over the much larger Great Falls schools. Each boy learned not only team co-operation, but also self-improvement, as a wrestler's success lies in his own hands.

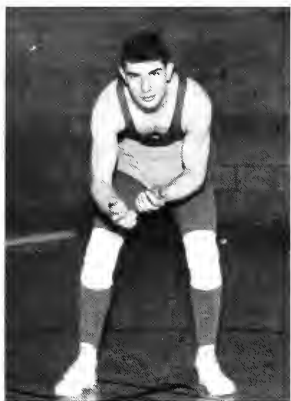
At the divisional tournament the wrestling team proved their strength. Five boys placed, winning for themselves a chance at the State event. It was with great pride that students at Valier received these five and the two who placed at State.



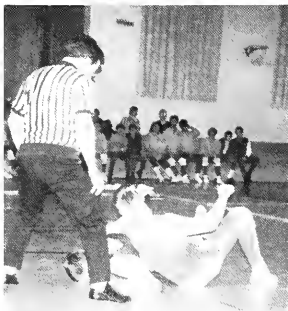
The only Junior who competed at Livingston, Jeff Briden, placed fourth in the Divisional Meet.



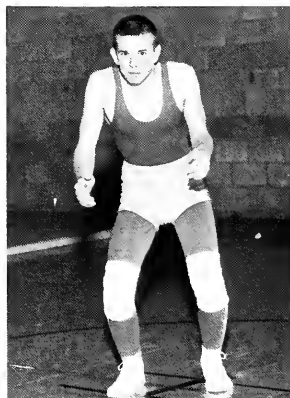
Terry VandenBos, who also participated in the State Tournament, was a Sophomore during the past season. He placed fourth at the divisional meet in Havre.



Robert Widhalm, Senior



Would you believe a reversal?



Doug Habets, Senior



Which one is which?



Is that a pin or not?



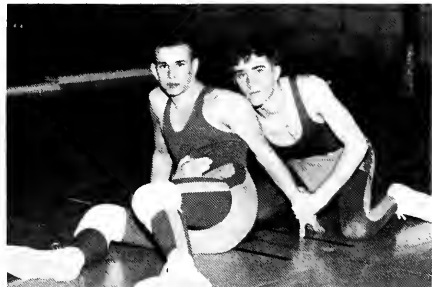
Somethings gotta give.



Whose leg do you think I've got?



Look out Don!



Four Senior Varsity Wrestlers pose for these action shots.





Opps, he's gonna get me.

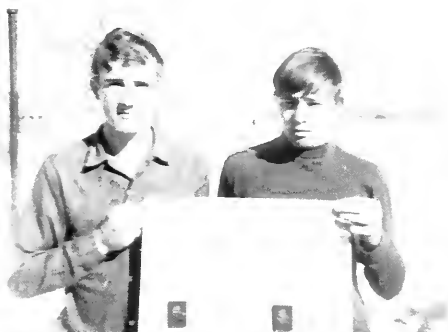


Wait a minute, my arm is in the way.



Team showing support for a fellow teammate.

Valier won this one.



Don and Kenny show their State Medals.



Ya better give up Buddy.



You weigh more, so get off.



Oh, my poor neck.

# New Additions Improved Track Program

"Track season took on a new look this year with seventeen boys out, an addition of two flights of hurdles, a new fiber-glass vaulting pole, and new enthusiasm.

A number of track meets were held on our track, which added spirit for many of the boys. Due to help from many individuals, all meets proved to be quite successful. We hope to have more meets in the coming years. The meets add the competitive spirit so necessary to make an individual an outstanding athlete.

It is hoped that a new interest in track has developed this year and that more individuals will be out next year."

Norman Ballantyne, Coach



FRONT ROW: Randy Geiger, Dick Wenzel, Tom Christiaens, Tony Harwood, Greg Harwood, and Jerry Johnson. SECOND ROW Bob Kovatch, Joe Stark, Roger Culleton, Rick Geiger, and Jody Field. THIRD ROW: Dick Habets, Kenny Kovatch, Guy Bradley, Gary Casey, Dave Kovatch, and Len VandenBos.

Mr. Ballantyne, Coach.

|           | Brady | Valier | Fairfield | Valier | Shelby | Valier | Great Falls | Missoula | Totals |
|-----------|-------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|----------|--------|
| Jerry J.  | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | X      | 0           | X        | 0      |
| Dick H.   | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 2      | 0           | X        | 2      |
| Tom C.    | 1/4   | 5      | 0         | 1      | 0      | X      | 0           | X        | 6 1/4  |
| Tony H.   | 3 1/4 | 0      | 10        | 8      | 12     | X      | 12          | 1        | 55 1/4 |
| Bob K.    | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 4      | 0           | X        | 4      |
| Dick W.   | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 5      | 0           | X        | 5      |
| Jody F.   | 2 3/4 | 3      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 3      | 0           | X        | 8 3/4  |
| Joe S.    | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 2      | 0           | X        | 2      |
| Randy G.  | 2     | 0      | 0         | 1      | 0      | 8      | 0           | X        | 11     |
| Rick G.   | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 3      | 0           | X        | 3      |
| Roger C.  | 0     | 1      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0           | X        | 1      |
| Dave K.   | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0           | X        | 0      |
| Gary C.   | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 1      | 0           | X        | 1      |
| Guy B.    | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 1/2    | 0           | X        | 1/2    |
| Ken K.    | 0     | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0           | X        | 0      |
| Len V. B. | 1/4   | 0      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 2      | 0           | X        | 2 1/4  |
| Greg H.   | 0     | 2      | 0         | 0      | 0      | 1      | 0           | X        | 3      |

X denotes nonparticipation



Tony Harwood was an outstanding athlete in the area. He captured first in the 880 and the mile at the divisional meet, and he placed fifth in the 880 at the state event in Missoula.



Peelin' out.



Soloist?



Isn't nice to point.



Augh! Quicksand.



Diggin in.



It's a bird, it's a plane. . .



What a leg show!



Up, up and away.



Barefoot boy.



S-s-stretch



Picking up speed?

# Girls Participated In Many Events



"The girls participated in track again this year and a couple proved to be real strong in our division. A number of girls qualified for the divisional meet.

I look forward to a new interest in this sport from more girls next year since more schools are becoming involved."

Norman Ballantyne, Coach

Kathy Widhalm, Candy Parmelee, Trudy Hall, Pam Crawford, Manager; and Penny Nelson. NOT PICTURED: Barb Widhalm, Helen Monroe, Desi Pepion, Connie Pepion, and Jeri Goff.

## Statistics

|           | Shelby | Brady | Cut Bank | Choteau | Great Falls | Billings | Totals |
|-----------|--------|-------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|--------|
| Barb W.   | 3      | 6 1/4 | 9 1/2    | 3 1/2   | 0           | X        | 22 1/4 |
| Candy P.  | 0      | 3     | 6 1/4    | 3 1/4   | 0           | X        | 12 1/2 |
| Connie P. | 0      | 0     | 0        | 0       | X           | X        | 0      |
| Desi P.   | 0      | 3/4   | 0        | 1/4     | X           | X        | 1      |
| Helen M.  | 0      | 0     | 0        | 0       | X           | X        | 0      |
| Jeri G.   | 0      | 3 3/4 | 5 1/2    | 1 3/4   | 0           | X        | 11     |
| Kathy W.  | 0      | 5 3/4 | 8 1/4    | 6 1/2   | 1           | 0        | 21 1/2 |
| Penny N.  | 0      | 1     | 7 1/2    | 2 3/4   | 3           | 0        | 14 1/4 |
| Trudy H.  | 0      | 7     | 3        | 0       | X           | X        | 10     |

X denotes nonparticipation



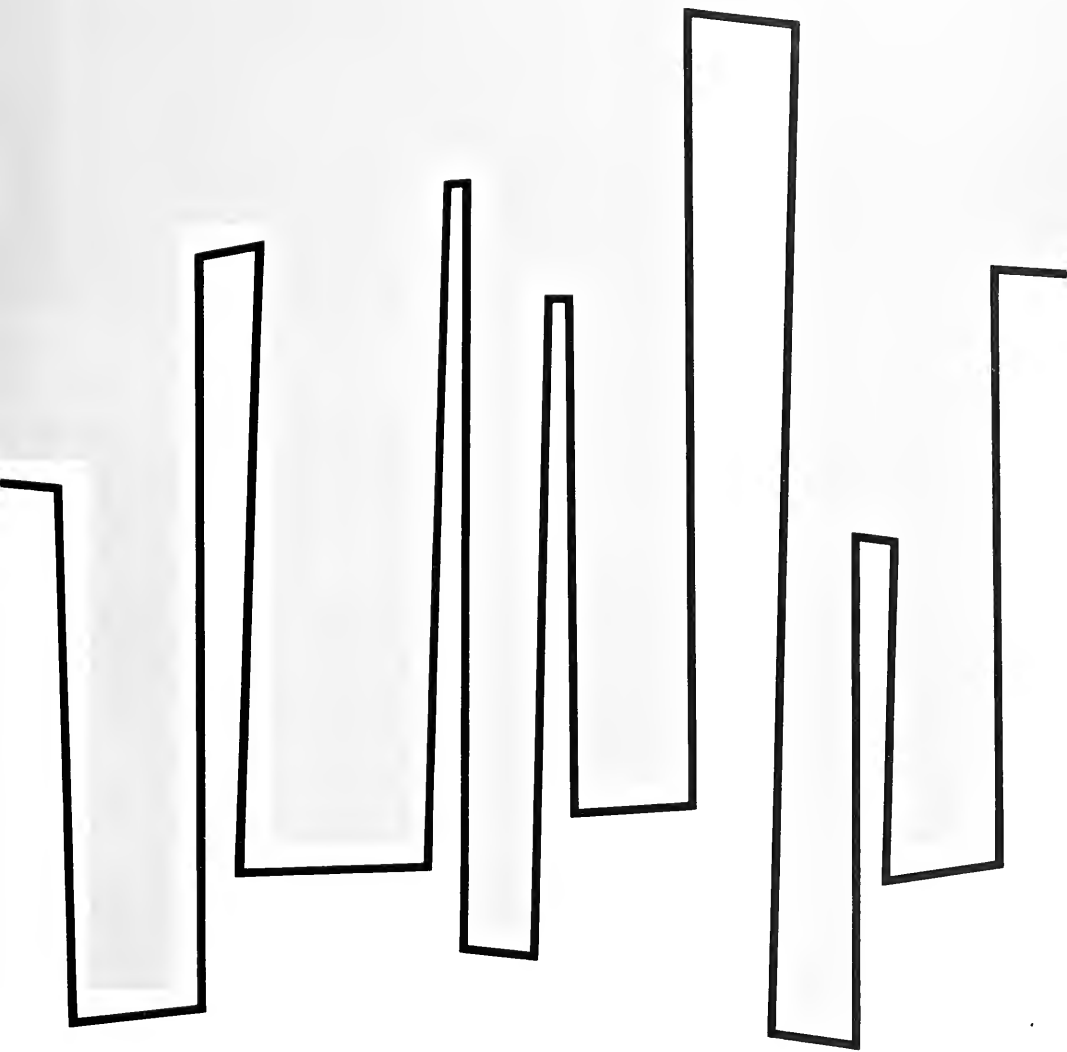
Gonna break 100'?



Don't drop it!



Mr. Knueppel, Kathy Widhalm, and Penny Nelson prepare to leave for the state meet at Billings. Kathy was entered in the 50-meter hurdles, and Penny ran the 440-yard dash.



ORGANIZATIONS



Annual Staff

SEATED: Dennis Simmons, Diana Widhalm, Ramona Arnst, Mrs. Van Gorden, Sponser, Isola Dean, Joann Boucher, and Doug Miller. STANDING: Doug Habets, Ina Beaudry, Vicki Bonnet, Delphia Adams, Robert Widhalm, Barb Widhalm, Mike Culleton, Bea Orr, Roger Christlaens, Karen Wenzel, Helen Monroe, Bonnie Buckingham, and Jeri Goff.

## Annual Staff Preserved Memories Of 1968-69



Diana Widhalm, Business Manager; Ramona Arnst, and Isola Dean, Co-Editors; Joann Boucher, Business Manager.

The 1969 Northern Lights was the major publication of Valier High School. To give the students a chance to reflect on the past activities of this school year, the staff set for themselves a goal to preserve the memories of the year.

Pecking at the typewriters, revising copy, preparing the layout--all were part of the sometimes frantic efforts to meet the deadline. At times, it seemed as though the annual would never be completed, but every member of the staff shared a sense of accomplishment when the last pages were finally sent in.



Drawing up the adds.



## Meeting The Deadline

Working hard, or hardly working?



Deep Concentration.



Watch that stuff, Rog!



Silence! Genius at work!



Thinking?

Kathy Widhalm, Secretary  
Tom Christiaens, Vice-President  
Jane Hammer, Treasurer



## Student Council Accepted Responsibility Of Leadership

To be elected to the Student Council is perhaps one of the greatest honors in Valier High School. The Student Council is given the responsibility of leading the Student Body in every phase of school life. They did this with competence, beginning the year with a well-contested election.

Everyone who visited the school, was reminded that "This is the home of the fighting Panthers", by a slogan and emblem painted in the gym by this group. Clean-Up Day and regular locker checks were held to maintain the building's beauty. Faculty and students alike enjoyed the Computer Dance and other social events sponsored by the Student Council.



Jane gives a campaign speech.



Bob and Alice listen as Kathy reads the minutes.

Alice Hayne,  
Junior Representative  
Nancy Hayne,  
Freshmen Representative  
Roger Christiaens,  
Senior Representative  
Bob Kovatch,  
Sophomore Representative



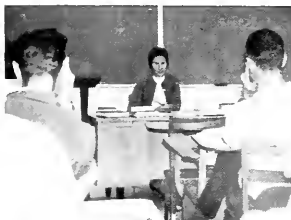




FRONT ROW: Mr. VanGorden, Sponsor; Joann Boucher, Parliamentarian; Karen Wenzel, Vice-President; Dennis Simmons, President; Roger Christiaens. SECOND ROW: Janice Neyenhuis, Jeri Lynn Goff, Debbie Rideout, Vicki Bonnet, Bonnie Buckingham, Doug Miller. THIRD ROW: Delphia Adams, Susan Crawford, Candy Parmalee, Pam Crawford, Jean Wheeler, Bob Kovatch. NOT PICTURED: Leanne Jannusch, Secretary-Treasurer; Alice Hayne, Bonnie Dodge.

## The Students Found F.T.A. Rewarding

The major purpose of the Future Teachers of America is the exploration of the profession of teaching, its opportunities and responsibilities. The members assisted the elementary teachers in a variety of ways; they spent many hours coaching small groups of young students and correcting their assignments. In this way, F.T.A. gave its members an insight into the field of teaching, helping them decide if it is the profession they want. On Parent Visitation Day the F.T.A. assisted the parents as they arrived in the morning and directed them to their classes throughout the day.



Goodness, you guys must have flunked.



Remember the library is to be quiet.



Some people just can't handle it.



Karen said it was here.



A real attentive class.

# Officers Presided At Class Meetings

## SENIORS

Dennis Simmons, President  
Bonnie Buckingham, Vice-President  
Diana Widhalm, Secretary  
Isola Dean, Treasurer



## JUNIORS

Dennis Chatlain, Treasurer  
Pam Crawford, Secretary  
Tony Harwood, Vice-President  
Jean Wheeler, President



## SOPHOMORES

Gary Amst, Secretary  
Greg Harwood, President  
Jerv Widhalm, Vice-President  
Helen Stephen, Treasurer

## FRESHMEN

Connie Wenzel, Treasurer  
Donna Myhre, Secretary  
Donita Powers, Vice-President  
Ronnie Simmons, President





SITTING: Greg Harwood, Jan Neyenhuis, Bob Kovatch, Ina Ann Beaudry, and Debra Dean. STANDING: Dennis Simmons, Isola Dean, Candy Parmelee, Jean Wheeler, Kathy Widhalm, Helen Stephen, Debbi Wright, and Ramona Arnst. NOT PICTURED: Sue Gauthier, Janice Davis, Alice Hayne, Trudy Hall, Mary Tyler, and Karen Rappold.

## Bi-Monthly Paper Was Published By Panther Staff



Sue Gauthier and Alice Hayne, Co-Editors

Every other week, these students who were on the Panther Staff could be seen busily working in the publications room. They were typing, squeezing, and erasing letters, stenciling in the headlines, and performing the many duties necessary in publishing a good paper.



The editor tries desperately to meet a deadline.



"I'm trying I'm trying!"



The presses are rolling!



FRONT ROW: Dave Kovatch, Len Vanden Bos, Jack Whitcomb, Kenny Kovatch, Rex Barrett, Mike Widhalm, Gary Widhalm, Tim Widhalm, Ted Orr, and Rick Vande Kop. SECOND ROW: Ron Simmons, Doug Powers, Treasurer; Tony Harwood, Secretary; Don Widhalm, President; Ross Buckingham, Vice-President; Doug Bowman, Parliamentarian; Larry Wunderlich, Greg Harwood, and Mr. Dunlap; Sponsor. THIRD ROW: Bill Barron, Joe Stark, Gary Arnst, Randy Geiger, Jerry Johnson, Donald Egan, Dennis Chatlain, and Bill Adamson. FOURTH ROW: Doug Miller, Jeff Briden, Roger Christiaens, Dennis Simmons, Steve Wenzel, Tom Peterson, Robert Widhalm, Jody Field, and Randy Boumans. FIFTH ROW: Steve Goff, Tom Christiaens, Mike Culleton, Ken Pepion, Ray Widhalm, Jerry Widhalm, Smoky Smith, Terry Vanden Bos, and Dick Wenzel. NOT PICTURED: Kenny Offerdahl, Rodger Parmelee, Chuck Redd, Harold Struss, Tom Allen, Mark Hammer, Robert Kovatch, Guy Bradley, and Dan Dodge.



Sand that block of wood real smooth!



Hold that board still Tony.



What a pair to put on the same job.

## I.A. Boys Excelled

The Industrial Arts Club worked to improve the facilities of our school. This year, the members built a new scoreboard for the football field. Lockers, which were built previously were finished. At the end of the year, they were in the process of building a concession stand for use at football games. The reward for the Juniors and Seniors was a field trip to Columbia Falls, where they toured the Aluminum and Wood Plants.



Whatcha say Doug?



Ramona Arnst, President; Barbara Widhalm, Secretary; Sue Gauthier, Vice-President; Eve Widhalm, Jan Neyenhuis, Helen Stephen, Kathy Widhalm, Alice Hayne, Delphia Adams, Treasurer; and Pam Crawford.

## Service Is Their Goal

The Panther Paw organization is a distinguished service honorary consisting of girls from the Sophomore, Junior, and Senior classes. The members of the group choose the incoming Sophomores each spring and the names of those who have been selected are announced at Class Night.

These girls were chosen for their scholastic ability, character, personality, sincerity, and moral values. Panther Paws assist the community at all school functions, such as ball games, concerts, and school plays. They were also responsible for the presentation of the flag during home game.



Barb Widhalm



Mrs. Garland



Mrs. Adams



Mrs. Prevost



Sue and Jan handing out programs.

## Faculty Advisors



Front Row: Ramona Arnst, Diana Widhalm, Jeri Goff, Melody Johnson, Debbie Dolan, Jean Delphia Adams, Larry Wunderlich, Candy Parmelee, Rhonda Stokes, Helen Stephen, Greg Jack Whitcomb, Doug Miller, Debbie Rideout, Connie Wenzel, Penny Nelson, Cindy Swanson, Don Widhalm. Not pictured: Dick Habets, Leanne Jannusch, Alice Hayne, Bonnie Dodge, Bob



#### BAND OFFICERS

Front Row: Vicki Bonnet, Librarian; Helen Stephen, Sophomore Representative; Pam Crawford, Librarian; Mr. Poelma, Director. Second Row: Helen Monroe, Assistant Student Director; Connie Wenzel, Freshman Representative; Jean Wheeler, Secretary; Ramona Arnst, Student Director.



Director  
Mr. Poelma



#### BRASS ENSEMBLE

Front Row: Pam Crawford, Alice Hayne, Cindy Swanson, Vicki Bonnet, Helen Monroe, Helen Stephen. Back Row: Roger Christiaens, Don Widhalm, Greg Harwood, Ray Widhalm.



Wheeler, Jan Neyenhuis, Jody Field, Pam Crawford, Helen Monroe. Second Row: Mr. Poelma, Ina Beaudry, Harwood, Ray Widhalm, John Majerus, Kenny Kovatch, Debra Dean. Third Row: Isola Dean, Dave Kovatch, Vicki Bonnet, Loretta Stokes, Donna Myhre, and Rhonda Barron. Fourth Row: Gary Arnst, Roger Christiaens, Kovatch.



Ina Beaudry, Candy Parmelee, and Helen Monroe examine one of the new band blazers, constructed of purple wool. The Music Mothers purchased these blazers which the band wore for the first time at the Spring Concert.

## The Band Became A Team; The Voice Of The School

The High School Band had a new philosophy this year. Mr. Poelma, the director, published these words in the Band Manual, "As a member of the band, you are a member of one of the school's most important team . . . the 'voice' of the school." This was the motto of the band, which sought throughout the year to become an instrumental group as good as any other. The director taught many fundamentals in weekly sectionals. The rewards of these practice sessions were the satisfactions of improvement.

Later in the year, a marching band was formed. It was a unique and thrilling experience for the entire group, and the citizens of the community were proud to say after the Memorial Day Parade, that "that is our band!"



FRONT ROW: Mr. Poelma, Debbie Wright, Kathy Widhalm, Diana Widhalm, Jean Hayes, Jan Neyenhuis, Jane  
SECOND ROW: Ramona Arnst, Twilla Wilson, Alice Peterson, Jewel Stokes, Susan Crawford, Denise Gossard, Jane  
THIRD ROW: Isola Dean, Ina Beaudry, Helen Monroe, Connie Pepion, Jody Field, Randy Geiger, Doug Powers,  
Debbie Rideout, Loretta Stokes. FOURTH ROW: Susan Russell, Sheila Allen, Anita Geiger, Debra Dean, Bob  
Karen Wenzel, Joann Boucher, Bonnie Buckingham, Vicki Bonnet. NOT PICTURED: Marie Adamson, Susan Gauthier,



OFFICERS: Barbara Widhalm, Librarian; Jane Durnell, Secretary Isola Dean, Student Director; Mr. Poelma, Director.



MADRIGALS

FRONT ROW: Vicki Bonnet, Bonnie Buckingham, Valerie Hale, Kathie Widhalm, Jan Neyenhuis. SEC-  
OND ROW: Leanne Jannusch, Trudy Hall, Helen Stephen, Ina Beaudry, Helen Monroe. THIRD ROW: Don Widhalm, Tony Harwood. FOURTH ROW: Doug Powers, Bob Kovatch, Joe Stark, Gary Arnst.

The Chorus performs at the Spring Concert.







Hammer, Roberta Keeler, Robin Adams, Lynn Gossard, Desi Pepion, Valerie Hale, Helen Stephen, Durnell, Jayme Nelson, Rhonda Stokes, Melody Johnson, Donna Myhre, Marla Slezak, Cindy Swanson, Roger Christiaens, Denny Chatlain, Greg Harwood, Diana DeVinney, Barbara Widhalm, Eve Widhalm, Kovatch, Gary Arnst, Joe Stark, Tom Christiaens, Ross Buckingham, Tony Harwood, Connie Wenzel, Leanne Jannusch, Karen Rappold, Linda Reishus, Susan Struss, Joan Yeager, Debbie Durnell.

## Chorus Enjoyed Singing

This year, 65 students participated in the Valier High School Mixed Chorus. Not wanting in spirit, the chorus presented a variety of repertoire ranging from popular to serious baroque, whereby gaining experience and proficiency. The choral accompanist was Ramona Arnst.



"Is everybody ready?"

## Students Presented Their Own Concert



This Concert was unique from all concerts previously held in Valier, because the students prepared the band, chorus, and ensemble numbers without the assistance of a director. The resignation of the music teacher, seven weeks before, inspired the students to prove what they could do by themselves. The music pupils continued to hold regular band and chorus rehearsals, eager to present a good concert. A week before the big event, the new director, Mr. Joe Poelma, arrived, who helped the groups a great deal.

With the help of Mr. VanGorden and Mr. Sindelar, who coordinated the event, and groups from the Churches, the Valier High School and Valier Junior High Music Departments gave a concert which few who attended will ever forget.

The Chorus sang at the Christmas Concert.



A trumpet soloist, Debra Dean was given a "II" rating.



Greg Harwood played "Gavotte" by J. S. Bach.



Delphia and Ramona took a clarinet duet.



Warming up--"Please, sing softer!"



Tony Harwood looks over his music one last time.

## Music Festival

One of the most effective ways to build up an instrumental group, is to improve the individual members. Each of these students spent many hours preparing their solos and ensembles for the Music Festival. As a result, they not only strengthened their own technique, but helped the whole band.



A saxophone duet was played by Jan Neyenhuis and Jean Wheeler.



"Il Bacio" was the trumpet duet which won a "II" for Helen and Pam.



Ina, Penny, Delphia, and Ramona were proud of the "II" their clarinet quartet received.



Melodie Johnson chose "Canzona", a flute solo for her Festival selection.



Front Row: Roger Christiaens, Dennis Simmons. Second Row: Steve Goff, Don Widhalm, and Jerry Johnson. Third Row: Bob Kovatch, Jeff Briden, Vice-President; Ray Widhalm, Jody Field, and Joe Stark. Fourth Row: Ken Pepion, Tony Harwood, Tom Christiaens, John Majerus, Terry VandenBos, Mark Hammer, and Len VandenBos. Fifth Row: Mr. VanGorden, Doug Miller, Mike Culleton, President; Allen Smith, Roger Culleton, Robert Widhalm, Rick Geiger, Sec. -Treas.; Donald Egan, and Doug Habets. Not Pictured: Rodger Parmelee, Ken Offerdahl, and Dick Habets.

## Lettermen Pursued Their Challenge



The Faculty game was really exciting!

The V-Club represents the very best of Valier High School's athletes. Only those who have earned a varsity letter in basketball, wrestling, football, or track are eligible for membership.

This year, their major project was to purchase purple blazers for the athletic department. They will be worn by all athletes to out-of-town events. To raise the funds necessary for this project, the V-Club sponsored an annual Thanksgiving turkey raffle, and a spring car wash. The faculty basketball game was also sponsored by the V-Club.

# Cheerleaders Work Hard To Support Our Team

The responsibility of a cheerleader does not begin at the beginning of football season. Rather, their work starts after they are elected, by popular vote, in the spring. During the entire summer, they developed their cheers, and did odd jobs to raise money for their uniforms. These tireless girls never quit during the season. Their exuberance was still there at the end of the long Homecoming snake dance.



Bonnie Buckingham



Penny Nelson



Debbie Rideout



Loretta Stokes



Eve Widhalm



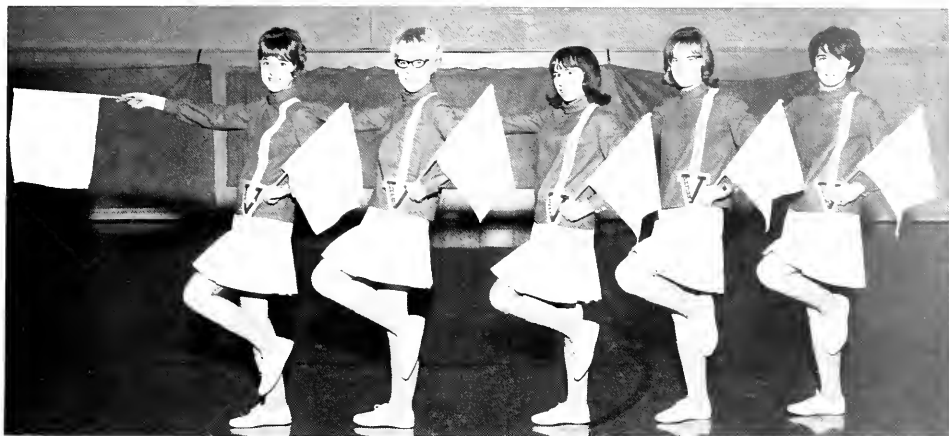
The cheerleaders crowned Ellen Gauthier Pep Queen for the football season. They felt she had been the most spirited pep club member.



The cheerleaders continued through the Homecoming Parade.



The week before Homecoming, the senior football boys vied for the title of Mr. Ugly. Ken Offerdahl was crowned at the Bon Fire.



Eve Widhalm, Bonnie Buckingham, Penny Nelson, Loretta Stokes, and Debbie Rideout.

## Cheerleaders Worked With Enthusiasm And Desire

The cheerleaders were very enthusiastic and passed their enthusiasm on to the student body during pep assemblies and ball games. The spirit of the spectators never lagged for more than a moment, because these cheerleaders performed their task well. Many hours were spent practicing their routines and making posters to improve school spirit. Without their efforts, the basketball season would not have been complete.



A send off for the team before the tournament.



The pep club in action.



Anita Geiger

## Freshmen Won Free Tickets

The pep club stayed behind their team throughout the long season, but some members showed exceptional spirit. Because they could not pick just one deserving pep club member, the cheerleaders chose two girls to distinguish as outstanding pep club members. They were awarded free tournament passes.



Rhonda Stokes

# The Pep Club Backed Our Teams During The Year

This past year the Pep Club displayed much enthusiasm in supporting our athletes. The Pep Club took buses to most of our away games, and they worked hard to provide concessions for our home events. They provided a great deal of the firm backing the Student Body showed in school spirit. We are proud of the continuous willing attitude to make Valier High School a school of pride and spirit. Judging from the desire that was shown this year, next year will be even better.



The tournament was an exciting time.



FRONT ROW: Debbie Wright, Eve Widhalm, Debbie Rideout, Jean Wheeler, Treasurer; Jeri Goff, Secretary; Bonnie Buckingham, Diana Widhalm, Vice-President; Karen Wenzel, President; Penny Nelson, Loretta Stokes, Kathy Widhalm, and Mr. Sindelar, Sponsor. SECOND ROW: Jayme Nelson, Bea Orr, Helen Monroe, Barb Widhalm, Jan Neyenhuis, Marla Slezak, Helen Stephen, Valerie Hale, Donna Myhre, and Isola Dean. THIRD ROW: Melodie Johnson, Candy Parmelee, Pam Crawford, Cindy Swanson, Vicki Dolan, Alice Peterson, Twilla Wilson, Jewel Stokes, Susan Crawford, Debra Dean, and Ramona Amst. FOURTH ROW: Denise Gossard, Robin Adams, Janie Durnell, Donna Allen, Delphia Adams, Linda Smith, Desi Pepion, Rhonda Barron, Jane Hammer, Anita Geiger, Sheila Allen, and Roberta Keeler. FIFTH ROW: Ina Ann Beaudry, Joann Boucher, Vicki Bonnet, Larry Wunderlich, Susan Russell, Rhonda Stokes, Diane DeVinney, Connie Wenzel, Debbie Dolan, Donita Powers, Don Widhalm, Joe Stark, Mike Widhalm, and Tim Widhalm. SIXTH ROW: Roger Christiaens, Dennis Simmons, Tony Harwood, Ken Pepion, Dick Wenzel, Doug Miller, Steve Goff, Doug Powers, Jerry Widhalm, Ray Widhalm, Mark Hammer, Greg Harwood, and Lennie VandenBos. SEVENTH ROW: Jack Whitcomb, Ronnie Simmons, Ken Kovatch, Bill Barron, Steve Wenzel, Terry Aakre, Jeff Briden, Bob Kovatch, Mike Culletton, Tom Christiaens, Gary Amst, Jody Field, and Dave Kovatch.

## Underclassmen Cheered "B" Team



Nancy Hayne



Desi Pepion

Late in the fall, these Freshmen and Sophomore girls were chosen by the student body to lead cheers during "B" squad basketball games. They worked closely with the "A" squad cheerleaders, and gained the experience, invaluable to future varsity cheerleaders.



Connie Wenzel



Kathy Widhalm



Debbie Wright

## Students Helped In Office

Juniors and Seniors who seek office practice volunteer as office assistants. In addition to serving as receptionists, and taking the roll, they type and duplicate various material for the students and teachers.



SEATED: Diana Widhalm, Dennis Simmons, and Isola Dean. SECOND ROW: Eve Widhalm, Bea Orr, Debbie Durnell, Vicki Bonnet, and Penny Nelson. THIRD ROW: Helen Monroe, Sue Gauthier, Bonnie Dodge, Ramona Arnst, and Ina Ann Beaudry. NOT PICTURED: Janice Davis.



FRONT ROW: Debbie Rideout, Cindy Swanson, Penny Nelson, Jean Wheeler, Helen Stephen, Vicki Bonnet, Pam Crawford, Candy Parmelee, and Miss McGowan, Sponsor. SECOND ROW: Loretta Stokes, Vicki Dolan, Donna Myhre, Valerie Hale, Kathy Widhalm, Marla Slezak, Debbi Durnell, and Jeri Goff. THIRD ROW: Bonnie Buckingham, Karen Wenzel, Joann Boucher, Diane DeVinney, Connie Wenzel, Desi Pepion, Melodie Johnson, and Evelyn Widhalm. FOURTH ROW: Twilla Wilson, Jewel Stokes, Alice Peterson, Rhonda Stokes, Anita Geiger, Alice Hayne, and Leanne Jannusch. NOT PICTURED: Sydney Kincaid, Connie Pepion, Trudy Hall.

## They Will Be American's Future Homemakers

The objective and projects of this organization were determined by the FHA members, based on a survey of the needs and interests of today's youth. It strives to help individuals improve personal, family and community living. Some of the group projects along these lines were District and State conventions, and the Father Daughter Banquet. The officers built the program of work around the basic beliefs about home and family.

They also do community activities such as the Easter Egg Hunt. A money making project was the cook book sales. The high school social events were the Hay ride, Christmas Formal, and the Senior Tea and Style Show.

### OFFICERS

SEATED: Pam Crawford, Vice-President; Candy Parmelee, President; Vicki Bonnet, Secretary; and Penny Nelson, Historian. STANDING: Jean Wheeler, Parliamentarian; Helen Stephen, Treasurer; Cindy Swanson, Song Leader; and Debbie Rideout, Reporter.







## F.H.A.'ers In Action

Candy Parmelee, Kathy Widhalm, Helen Stephen, Donna Myhre, Pam Crawford, and Miss McGowan leaving for the State Convention in Billings.



" . . . of the beginning. "

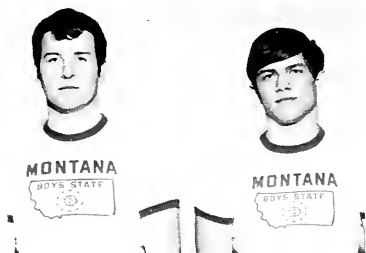


Clowning around.

## Girls' And Boys' Staters Learned By Doing

"Where there is no vision the people perish." Our American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary, realizing the need to instill the ideals of American Citizenship into this nation's youth, created and developed Girls' State and Boys' State.

These delegates to Montana Girls' State and Boys' State, were chosen by the fellow members of their class for their outstanding leadership, citizenship, honesty, speaking ability, and other merits. By participating in the many varied activities, they have returned to us, better leaders, citizens, and Americans, helping our High School to develop leaders for tomorrow.



Roger Christiaens and Dennis Simmons attended Montana Boys' State at the campus of Western Montana State College on August 10-18. Each delegate participated in one of three schools; legislative, law, and law enforcement. Dennis was a member of the Senate, and Roger was a member of the House of Representatives.

Montana Girls' State was held June 20-30 on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman. Delegates Diana Widhalm and Ramona Arnst returned with many new ideas useful in school elections and meetings. The knowledge of State government, and the appreciation of State officers, were two of their greatest rewards.





SEATED: Mrs. Lohse, Robert Widhalm, Isola Dean, Bonnie Buckingham, Roger Christiaens, and Ina Ann Beaudry. STANDING: Ramona Arnst, Jewel Stokes, Susan Crawford, and Joann Boucher. NOT PICTURED: Janice Davis, Colleen McComb, and Sue Gauthier.

## Skill Is Gained Through Library Work

The High School's Library Staff is composed of Junior and Senior students who seek experience in library work. They performed many services, such as decorating the library, and reading stories to Grade School children, in addition to their normal duties.

The librarians organized a Library Club this year. The State Convention at Livingston was a highlight which they had worked for all year.



Where's the candy?



Pin 'em up.



Isola Dean,  
President  
Bonnie Buckingham,  
Vice-President  
Janice Davis,  
Secretary  
Sue Gauthier,  
Treasurer



FRONT ROW: Mr. Sindelar, Sponsor; Ramona Arnst, President; Sue Gauthier, Vice-President; Barbara Widhalm, Secretary; Delphia Adams, Treasurer; SECOND ROW: Kathy Widhalm, Alice Hayne, Robin Adams, and Debbi Wright. THIRD ROW: Leanne Jannusch, Bob Kovatch, Joe Stark, and Mark Hammer. NOT PICTURED: Karen Rappold.

## Honor Society Provided Services For School And Community

The members of the National Honor Society are chosen on the basis of their leadership, scholarship, character and service. The faculty council must consider all four of these factors before accepting a student into this organization. Sophomores qualify only for provisional membership; they may be selected as permanent members their Junior or Senior year.

This year Valier's chapter was more active than it had been in the past. In November, they sponsored a mock General Election, and they could be heard caroling around Valier in late December. In January, Conrad's chapter initiated Valier's members into National Honor Society in an assembly held before the entire student body. The group held a Community Talent Show in February, to raise money for the Boulder River School for the Retarded.



Members of Honor Society present the profit of the Talent Show, \$90.00, to a guide at the Boulder River School.



Susan Crawford won first place at the Talent Show.



Members pass the light of Honor Society.



Who's going to buy this slave?



The Panther Paws in action.



What's with the assembly line?



Goodnight, Den.



Our Band!



Pretty nice work for you Ken.



Too bad.



The ole school Mom.



Off to Livingston.



Get to work, Powers.



Do we have to?



# ACTIVITIES



The winning float was constructed by the Juniors.



The Sophomore float won second place.

## Homecoming Parade Was A Success

During the week prior to Homecoming, each of the classes were engaged in the hustle and bustle of constructing a float. These floats, with the Queen candidates, and the cheerleaders, paraded down Main Street to the music of the band. Local businessmen decided which float was the winning one; this year they chose the Junior's float with the slogan "Sock it to 'em". The Sophomores placed second, and the Seniors' float captured third place.



Alice Hayne



Jeri Lynn Goff



Sheila Allen



Debbie Dolan

# Alice Hayne Won Homecoming Title

One of the highlights of Homecoming was the crowning of the Homecoming Queen. Each of the classes selected a candidate, who represented her classmates in the Homecoming Parade, and vied for the title of Queen. The members of the football team chose Alice Hayne as their Homecoming Queen for 1968, Alice, escorted by Tom Christiaens, was crowned by Dennis Simmons and Roger Christiaens, co-captains.



Queen Alice Hayne  
Junior Candidate



Miss Jeri Goff  
Senior Candidate



Miss Sheila Allen  
Sophomore Candidate



Miss Debbie Dolan  
Freshman Candidate



The candidates pose before the crowning.



Alice and her date, Tom,  
at the dance.



The football captains escort their queen.

# "Stairway To The Stars"

One of the many activities of the V-Club and F.H.A. was the Christmas Formal. Couples attending chose Ken Offerdahl and Debbi Durnell as the King and Queen.



Pam Crawford, V-Pres. of F.H.A. poses with Mike Culleton President of V-Club.



King Ken Offerdahl and Queen Debbi Durnell.



SEATED: Jayme Nelson and Len VandenBos, Freshmen candidates; STANDING: Ross Buckingham and Jean Wheeler, Junior candidates; and Roberta Keeler and Jerry Widhalm, Sophomore candidates.



Eighth-grade girls served refreshments.

## Junior Prom Shots



Jane and Greg talk between dances.



"Oh, we're SO tired!"





King Don Widhalm  
Queen Diana Widhalm

## "A Walk In The Garden"

The Junior Class had reason to be proud of their Junior-Senior Prom. Jean Wheeler, Junior Class President, crowned Diana and Don after the impressive Grand March.



The Junior Class sponsor, Mr. Ballantyne.



Debbi Durnell and Roger Christiaens were the Sophomore Class candidates.



The Juniors chose Jeri Goff and Don Widhalm for their candidates.



Jean Wheeler, and Tony Harwood President, and Vice-President of the Junior Class.



Brother and Sister

# Seniors, Juniors, And Sophomores Starred



## “Do You Trust Your Boyfriend?”

Judy Meredith  
Bessie Trotter  
Kay Meredith  
Lois Andrews  
Steve Woodward  
Madeline Ross  
Tom Nolan  
Phil Hunter  
Miss Denny  
G. T. Ellison

Debbie Wright  
Alice Hayne  
Janie Durnell  
Helen Stephen  
Dennis Simmons  
Jan Neyenhuis  
Tony Harwood  
Greg Harwood  
Trudy Hall  
Gary Hammer



Mrs. Jim Garland, Director and Isola Dean, Assistant Director.

Make-up - Mrs. Ora Lohse  
Assistant - Joann Boucher  
Advertisement - Sue Gauthier  
Programs - Ina Beaudry



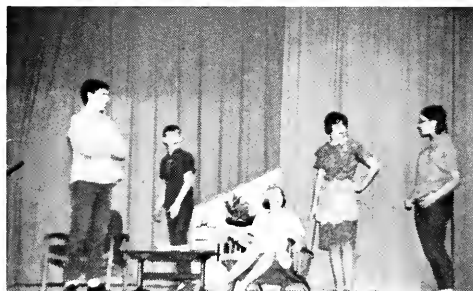
"Gosh, I - I've got a girl - and I can still talk!"



Behind the scenes in the make-up room.



"Here now, brace up."



"Listen, dearie, I'm confused too - and I'm not even a history teacher."

# The Seniors Presented "Dino"



CAST COMPOSED OF SENIORS AND ONE JUNIOR

Dino Falcaro  
Mr. Sheridan  
Shirley Wallace  
Jackie  
Miss Haines

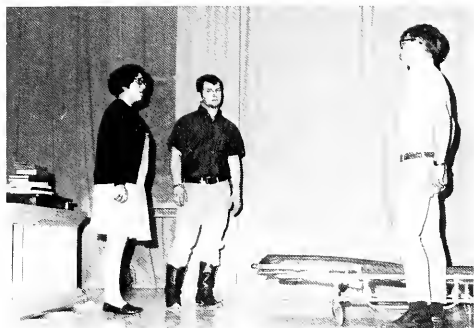
Doug Miller  
Tony Harwood  
Isola Dean  
Joann Boucher  
Jeri Goff

Danny - Mike Culleton  
Steve - Doug Habets  
Sylvia - Barb Widhalm  
Della - Karen Wenzel  
Pat - Bonnie Buckingham  
Bea - Linda Smith  
Mr. Mandel - Don Widhalm



Tony Falcaro - Dennis Simmons  
Mrs. Falcaro - Ina Beaudry  
Mr. Falcaro - Roger Christiaens  
Mrs. Mikula - Ramona Amst  
First Young Girl - Donna Allen  
Second Young Girl - Vicki Bonnet

Mrs. Rick Prevost,  
Director



"Hello Dino!"



Smile pretty Don.



"Why dontcha sock me?"



"I know a girl who lives on Morris."



"Well, I'll see ya Dino."



How's that Mrs. Lohse?



"Is maybe a coat?"



"How's about loaning me a dime Jackie?"

Very interesting !



Diaper octet.



## A Christmas Laugh-In

The high school students started their Christmas vacation with a laugh at the senior skit, "A Christmas Laugh-In." Everyone heard his Christmas Wish, exchanged gifts, and enjoyed refreshments served by the I.A. Club and Home Ec department.



You really should do something about that weight problem, Roger.



Poor lady, she never gets to say anything.



## “Do You Have My Number?”

This was THE question at the Computer Dance, which the Student Council sponsored on April 26th. A computer matched the dates, and everyone mingled in the crowded Multi-Purpose Room to find out who their "ideal dates" were for the evening.

Students swing to the music of "The Public Eye"



"Where in the world are my dates?"



EVERYBODY joined in the fun, and teachers were no exception.



As well as pairing the dates for the evening, the computer picked the boy and girl who had the most ideal dates. Penny Nelson, who had 11 dates, was the Most Popular Girl, and Jerry Johnson was the Most Popular Boy with 16 dates.



Ken Offerdahl won the high-point wrestling trophy by a narrow margin of one point.

The Community Club awarded the Free-Throw Award to Tom Christiaens, who made the highest percentage of free-throws.



## Class Night Was Many Memories

At Awards Night, the noteworthy students were presented with tokens of their efforts in the activities and organizations. Yet Awards Night was much more than trophies, pins and certificates. Indeed, Class Night is a more fitting title, because it was the night the senior class bade farewell to their friends of Valier High. The class history, wills and prophecies were read, and the events of the year were reviewed. At the close, the junior and senior classes participated in the poignant candlelight ceremony. As they sang "School Days", the seniors lighted the junior's candles, passing on the light of high school.



FRONT ROW: Jean Wheeler and Douglas Habets. BACK ROW: Robert Widhalm and Jeff Briden.



Tony Harwood, Penny Nelson, and Jerry Johnson.

### Heisey Award

The Heisey is probably the most coveted award which a student can receive. It is unique in that it is not an award for excellence, but rather for improvement. Selected by the faculty, the recipient should show signs of improvement in citizenship, scholarship and effort.





Debbie Wright was awarded the trophy as Best Actress for her role as the ambitious adolescent, Judy Meredith, in "Do You Trust Your Boyfriend?" For his role as Phil Hunter, the boy who was afraid of girls, Greg Harwood was named the Best Actor in this play.

For the leading role in "Dino" the story of a teenage boy who feels unwanted, Doug Miller was the choice for Best Actor. Joann Boucher won the title of Best Actress. She was cast as Jackie, the receptionist at the Settlement House where Dino went for help.



For the play, "Do You Trust Your Boyfriend?" Jan Neyenhuis as Madeline Ross was the Best Supporting Actress, and the Best Supporting Actor was Tony Harwood, who played Tom Nolan.



Isola Dean, Shirley in the senior play, "Dino," was named Best Supporting Actress, and Dennis Simmons, Dino's brother, Tony, was chosen the Best Supporting Actor.



The winner of the Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow Test, Sue Gauthier won the journalism metal and the "I Dare You" award.

Because she was the most outstanding student in all phases of home economics, Roberta Keeler was named the Outstanding Homemaker.



The John Philip Sousa Award was given to Ramona Arnst for her excellence as a band member.

## Other Awards Earned By Students

Ina Beaudry, a delegate to 4-H National Congress in Chicago, took first in the district and placed in the state Elks Youth Leadership Contest.



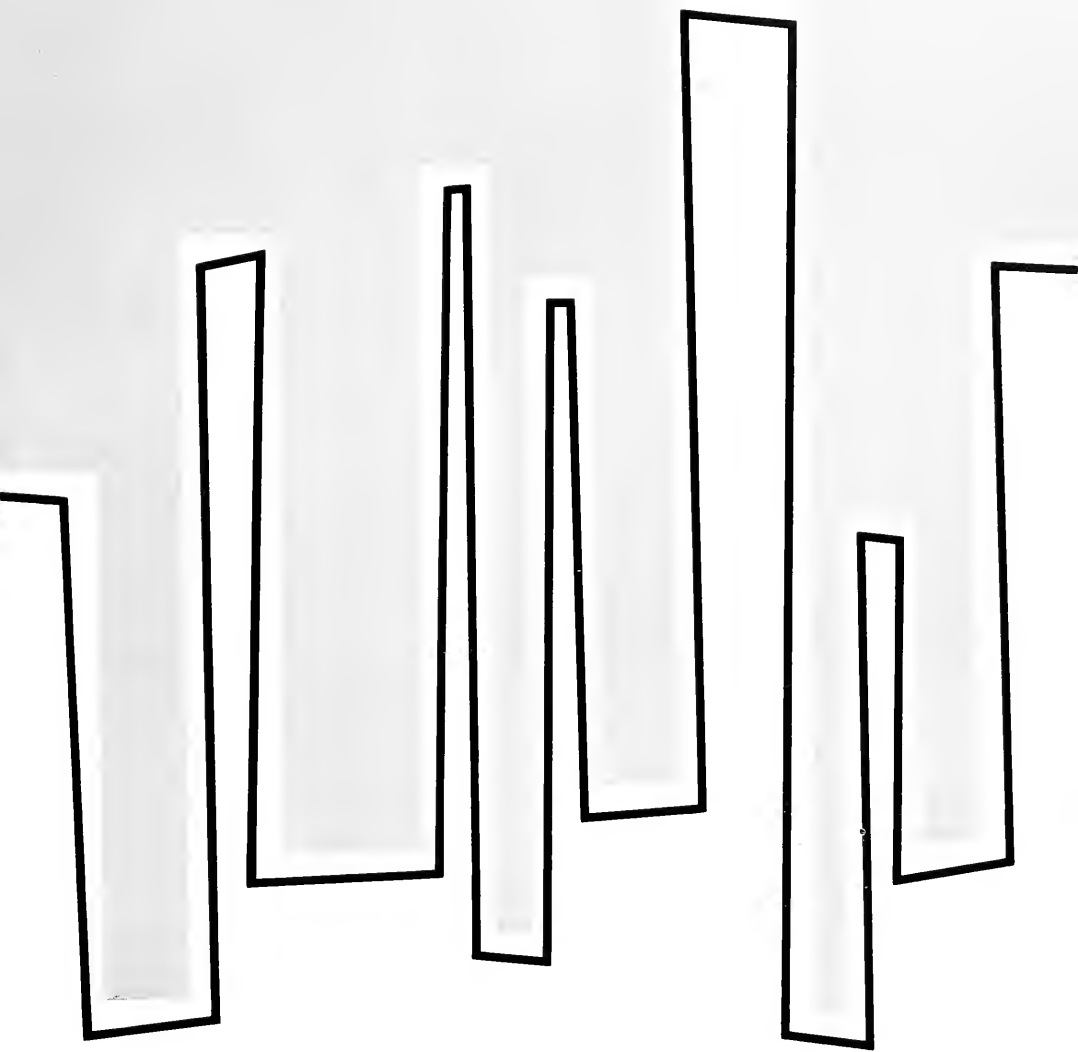
Jan Neyenhuis took first in the county and district Cowbell Beef Cook-Off.



Mark Hammer won a trip to Washington, D.C. in the REA essay contest. An outstanding Boy Scout for six years, this year he became an Eagle Scout, which is the highest rank in scouting.



To find the ideal high school girl was the goal of the 1968-69 Pondera County Junior Miss Pageant. Entered from Valier was Ramona Arnst, seated, who was chosen Junior Miss, and Diana Widhalm, Isola Dean, and Jeri Goff, who won the Spirit of Junior Miss award.



GRADUATION

# F.H.A. Honored Seniors With Tea



The Senior Girls



Pam Crawford and Alice Hayne narrated the style show.



Candy Parmelee, F.H.A. president, presented each Senior with a rose.



Vicki Dolan modeled her cape.



Trudy Hall was chosen outstanding F.H.A.'er.



Mrs. Wenzel and Mrs. Parmelee, chapter mothers.



You're not the photographer, Mike.



Sleeping beauty?

## Lake Blaine Hosted Skip Day



Boy you're in trouble now!



Wowee, we're going!



They're quiet for once.



Why don't you go swimming girls?



Isn't he cute?



This is watching the kids?



Hang on Ken!



Just waiting for something to happen.



Shall we tip them?



That's far enough, boys!



An unusual moment.



Meet Mrs. Offerdahl.



B-r-r-r that's cold.



Notice the form.



Sleeping like a baby.



The finer of the two sexes?



I can't move it, Roger!



## Seniors Honored By Juniors In New Tradition

The occasion was the Senior Banquet, and the Multi-Purpose Room was filled with the seniors, their parents, faculty, and guests. This year, for the first time, the junior class served the banquet.

Mr. VanGorden told humorous highlights about the seniors, and Mr. Mike Sirokman challenged the seniors to do well in their life ahead.



The master of ceremonies, Mr. VanGorden.



Mrs. Sirokman listens as her husband tells a few jokes.



The juniors and their mothers served a delicious banquet.



"Do you want coffee?"



Isola Dean, Sue Gauthier and Bonnie Buckingham provided the entertainment.



## Seniors Gathered For Worship

Baccalaureate services were held Sunday, May 25th.



Rev. Jim Holmlund delivered the sermon, and Rev. Elmer Robison gave the invocation and the benediction.



Linda Holden sang "Benediction" by J. S. Bach, and Corrine Whitcomb played the prelude, processional and recessional.



Waiting. Just Waiting.



Takin' it cool.

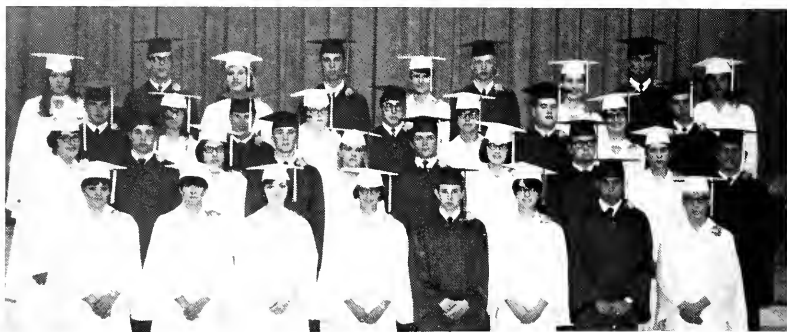
Is this the end?



Where's the end of the line?



Tears of Happiness



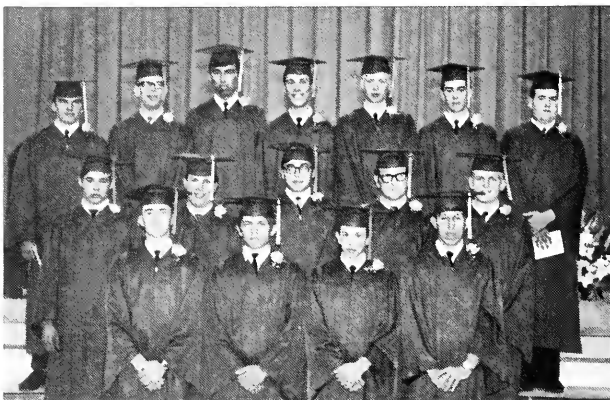
The 1969 graduating class of Valier High High School.

## “We Know What



FRONT ROW: Bea Orr, Jeri Goff, Barb Widhalm, Diana Widhalm, and Vicki Bonnet. SECOND ROW: Linda Smith, Colleen McComb, Ina Beaudry, Debbi Dumell and Bonnie Buckingham. THIRD ROW: Eula Tyler, Donna Allen, Helen Monroe, Ramona Amst, and Karen Wenzel. FOURTH ROW: Sue Gauthier, Joann Boucher, Isola Dean, Delphia Adams and Janice Davis.

FRONT ROW: Don Widhalm, Dennis Simmons, Doug Habets, and Jerry Johnson. SECOND ROW: Ken Offerdahl, Don Egan, Ken Pepion, Roger Christiaens, and Rodger Parmelee. THIRD ROW: Chuck Redd, Doug Miller, Allen Smith, Mike Culleton, Tom Peterson, Robert Widhalm, and Harold Struss.





Valedictorian Ramona Arnst was also presented the Legion Award and the "I Dare You" award.



Joann Boucher, Salutatorian, delivered the welcoming address.

## We Are, But Know Not What We May Be."



The moment we've all been waiting for.

After twelve years of study, May 26th, Graduation Day, arrived. When the confusion of pictures, lining up, and pinning corsages at last settled down, the juniors marched in for the pine bough ceremony. Closely behind came the seniors in their purple and white robes. Perhaps each graduate thought of his "Impossible Dream," which the chorus had just sung, as he received his diploma.

Many tears of joy and sadness were shed as friends, relatives and classmates passed through the receiving line with congratulations and farewells.



"Someday, WE'LL be in the caps and gowns."



The commencement speaker was Father Livix of the College of Great Falls.



## The Senior Party Was A Night To Remember

Come on Ronnie, Van won't care.



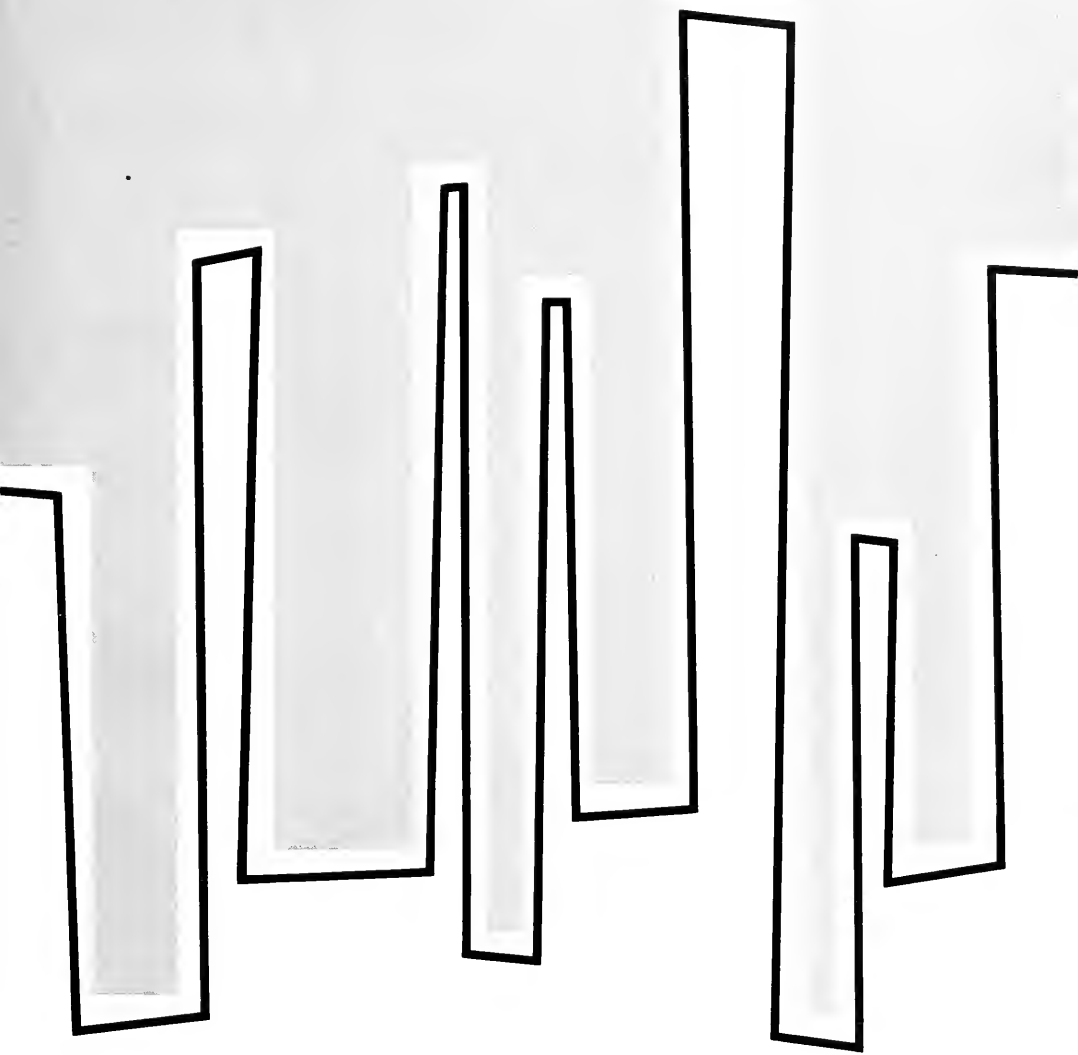
Watching "The Chase."



Must be a wild story.



Smile, Chuck, graduation is over.



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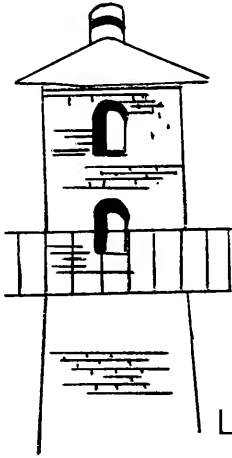
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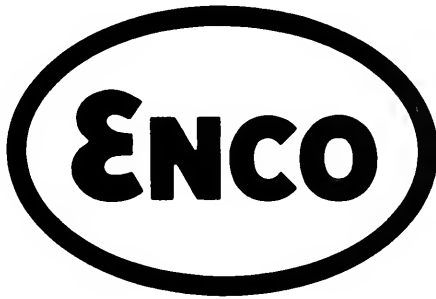
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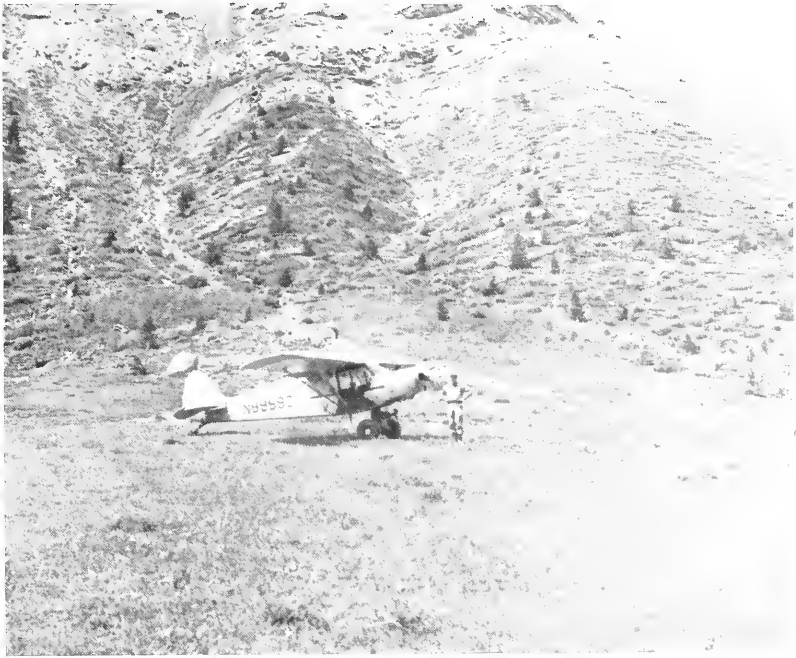
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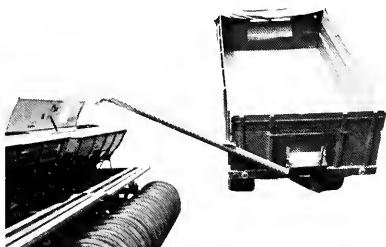
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In Pondera County, our taxes came to approximately \$73,000. The cost of schooling for one student for one year in our Montana public schools is \$689.

That means our taxes here would pay the bill for educating about 107 students in this county.

Is the boy above one of them? Are YOU one of them? Actually, both of you are...to some degree.

We believe money spent wisely for education to be a sound investment in the future. Be our guest.



# THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY

## Our Thank You

The 1968-69 year is over and memories are all that remain. We, the editors, hope that we have succeeded in preserving the many joys of high school life. Without the help of many people, this Northern Lights would never have been possible.

We extend a sincere thank you to the advertisers who helped finance the book, and to the many members of the faculty who were never too busy to help us with the copy.

To the rest of the staff a thank you for time spent selling ads, typing, and doing the many jobs necessary.

To our sponsor, Mrs. VanGorden, we are especially grateful for her untiring efforts, patience, and helpful suggestions.

Ramona Arnst

Isola Dean







